

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 01686 150533Z

11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SS-20 NSC-07 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SPC-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01

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TAGS: PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: PRESS COMMENTS ON US-EEC RELATIONS

1. ROK PRESS THIS WEEK HAS SHOWN CONCERN OVER US PUBLIC DISAGREEMENT WITH EEC ON OIL POLICY. UNDER HEADLINES READING "DISPUTE BETWEEN US AND EEC SURFACES," MOST PAPERS MARCH 12 AND 13 GAVE PROMINENT ATTENTION TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S MARCH 7 LETTER TO CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND TO SECRETARY'S MARCH 11 COMMENTS ON SUBJECT OF COOPERATION BY EUROPEAN ALLIES, AS WELL AS TO FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT'S REMARKS ON US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS.

2. EDITORIALS, WHILE IMPLICITLY FAVORING US POSITION ON OIL ISSUE, HAVE EXPRESSED REGRET AT THE WORSENING OF US-EUROPE RELATIONS AND CONCERN THAT ATLANTIC ALLIANCE MAY BE WEAKENING. PRESS HAS SOUTHT TO EXPLAIN NATO "CRISIS" IN TERMS OF SURFACING OF LONG-SMOLDERING MISTRUST BETWEEN US AND ITS ATLANTIC ALLIES, A PROBLEM WHICH GOES DEEPER THAN CURRENT DISPUTE OVER OIL. HANKUK ILBO MARCH 13 NOTED FOR EXAMPLE THAT US HAD FAILED TO CONSULT WITH ITS ALLIES WHEN IT DECLARED WORLDWIDE MILITARY ALERT DURING MIDDLE EAST WAR. EDITORIALS POINT OUT. HOWEVER, THAT ISSUES EVEN MORE VITAL THAN THOSE DIVIDING THE ATLANTIC PARTNERS ARE AT STAKE AND EXPRESS BELIEF THAT EUROPEANS CANNOT RISK RUPTURE OF TRADITIONAL TIES WITH US. ENGLISH LANGUAGE
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PAGE 02 SEOUL 01686 150533Z

KOREA HERALD MARCH 14 CONCLUDES THAT THE CURRENT DISPUTE IS

"HARDLY MORE THAN A FAMILY SQUABBLE" AND URGES BOTH THE US AND
THE EUROPEANS TO CONTINUE COOPERATING IN THE BROADER INTEREST
OF SECURITY OF EUROPE AND THE FREE WORLD.
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